DataGrabber Operating Manual

Powered by Ripfactory

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Overview

DataGrabber is a dedicated software tool to allow for batch transfer of data files from disc utilising MF Digitals's 76xx series robotic autoloaders.

DataGrabber will take any data DVD or data CD and create an ISO image or the resulting file structure from the disc itself, creating a local copy, for use in archive or backup applications.

The application operates on the Windows XP Platform.

The product is designed for use by individuals, system integrators and archive holders and offers flexibility, ease of use and high throughput at the core of its operation.

DataGrabber is licensed on a seat or site license basis as selected by MF digitals and Ripfactory's clients and subject to the conditions laid down in the applicable license agreement.

This document provides a user manual to allow basic and advanced operation as well as customisation of all parameters, set up and use of robotics.

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1.0 Software Installation

Please note that for all models, the software is preinstalled prior to shipment and the following steps are only required where requested by support.

1.1 Pre-install Checks

For Standalone PC Options:

- Windows XP or SP2
- Microsoft .NET 2.0, download from www.ripfactory.com/dotnet
- PC platforms as specified in pre-install documentation
- Always on internet connection

In addition, please ensure the required document for metadata access has been completed and the required key codes have been issued (see section 4.4.1).

1.2 Running the Executable

- Ensure target PC is connected to the internet.
- To install the software, double click the icon **'datagrabbersetup.exe'** to run and follow the onscreen prompts.
- It is recommended that the default paths be selected for installation.

1.2.1 Registration

- To activate the software installation, double click the program shortcut on the desktop.
- When prompted, as shown in figure 1.0, please key in the registration code supplied at the time of purchase and click ok.

Figure 1.0 – Product Registration Code Screen

- Next, enter in the company details when presented with the screen as shown in figure 1.1 in order to complete the product registration and software installation.

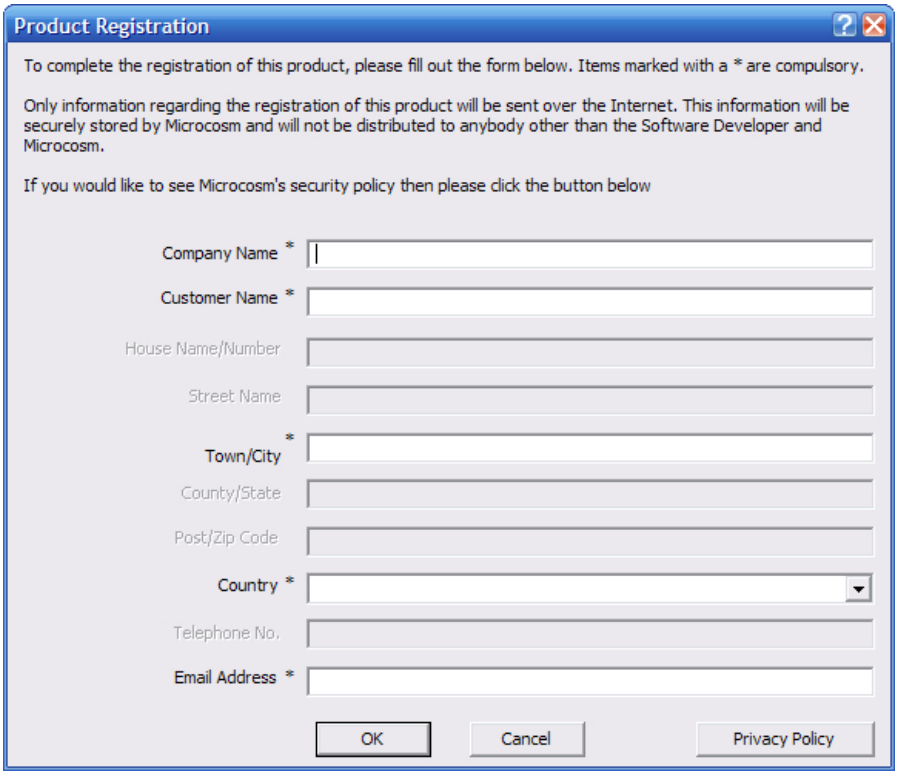

Figure 1.1 – Product Registration Details Screen

All details marked as * are required.

- Click OK to proceed and the application will connect to our server and verify your code.

1.2.2 Limits on Registration

In the case of a seat License, **ONE** code for activation is provided. The application may be uninstalled at any time and reinstalled on an alternate machine by following the process above. Please note however, only ONE copy of the software will run at any one time and a second installation of the software with the same code will prevent the first installation from being run.

2.0 Hardware Installation

This section details a set of instructions for correct assembly of the robotic hardware. It begins by listing the items contained within the packaging.

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2.1 Robotic Hardware (MD Series)

The autoloader box should contain:

1. The MD series robotic hardware system
2. Power cable
3. These Quick Set-up Instructions
4. Warranty & support documents

2.2 Step-by-step guide of Robotic hardware

2.2.1 STEP ONE – Remove the Packing Constraints

- Carefully remove the autoloader from its carton, lifting from the bottom using the hand cut-outs in the foam base.
- DO NOT attempt to lift the machine using the spindles, column tower, or pick arm, as these are delicate pieces and are depended on for proper alignment and functioning of the unit.
- Place the system on a level workspace free of debris, dust, humidity, excessive heat, and electronic or electromagnetic interference.
- Keep out of direct sunlight.
- Allow at least six inches of clearance on all sides of unit for ventilation.
- Remove protective plastic cover from system and save along with the rest of the packaging.

2.2.2 STEP TWO – Remove the Stabilizing Bracket

- If the system has one, ***remove the stabilizing bracket that is attached to the drive stack and column tower (very important)***. This is an item used to stabilize the column tower in shipping only and could severely damage the autoloader if not removed prior to powering on the unit.
- Save the stabilizing bracket along with the rest of the packaging.

2.2.3 STEP THREE – Plug in the Peripherals

- Plug in a monitor (VGA DSUB), keyboard and mouse (PS2 or USB) to the robot
- Attach the Ethernet cable.
- Using the enclosed 3-prong power cord, plug in the autoloader to a properly grounded AC receptacle. It is highly recommended that a surge protector is used to ensure safety in operation.

- Power on the unit using the main switch at the back
- Windows will now load and you will see the Ripfactory Desktop
- Double click the icon to run the DataGrabber application.

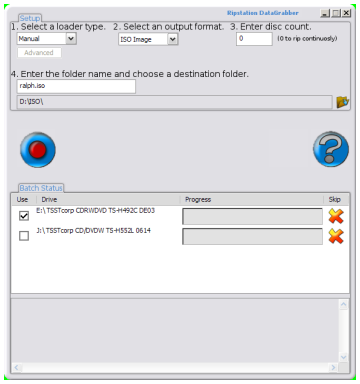
A small number of test CDs may be placed into input hopper one (the right-most bin with three 'spikes').

All successfully ripped discs will be dropped off onto the accept spindle or appropriate hopper until the system has completed the quantity of discs requested, or runs out of media. Should any discs fail to be ripped due to a blemish or otherwise; they will be placed in the reject pile, in front of the drive stack.

3.0 DataGrabber Quick Start Guide

Before using the DataGrabber software, please use the following steps as a 'quick start' guide to set the initial parameters and perform a simple batch rip.

1. Open the DataGrabber software and on the main screen, select a loader type and output format



If MFD is selected, the 'Advanced' button will become active. This allows the configuration of the com ports and the ability to toggle shake mode. Shake mode was introduced to address sticking discs being double loaded into drive tray.

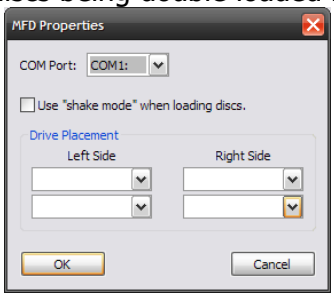


Figure 3.0 – Advanced Dialog Box

You have the option to rip the actual files on the disc or to rip to an ISO image; this can be chosen by selecting the relevant radio button.

2. Enter the number of discs you wish to rip, or enter 0 to have it rip continuously

3. Choose the folder name by entering it into the text box and then the destination directory for the files to be ripped to by clicking the icon

4. Once all the details have been entered, click the start batch button to begin ripping

4.0 Main User Guide

4.1 Key Features

- Batch processing
- Batch reporting on successful & failed discs
- Live batch process logging window
- MD series robotic autoloader and USB2.0 drive support for backup
- Batch setup wizard
- Single touch start and drive control
- Drive stop control
- Full error checking CRC
- Fully automatically updated
- Support for DVD data and CD data discs
- Support for up to 4 drives

4.2 DataGrabber Main Screen

The DataGrabber main user interface is shown in figure 4.1 below. Operations are carried out using the button controls and information is displayed throughout the rest of the screen. Figure 4.1 shows the interface split into groups from 1-7. Section 4.2.1 of the manual details each of these groups in turn.

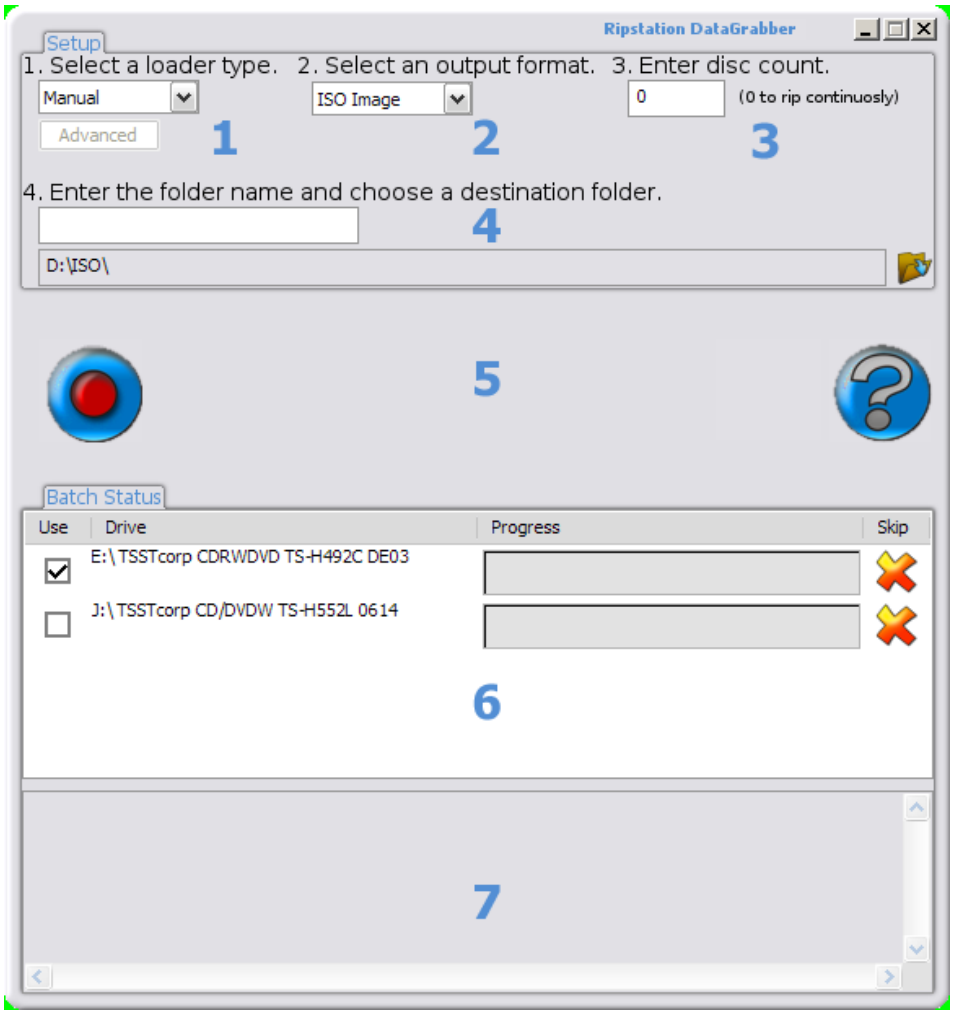
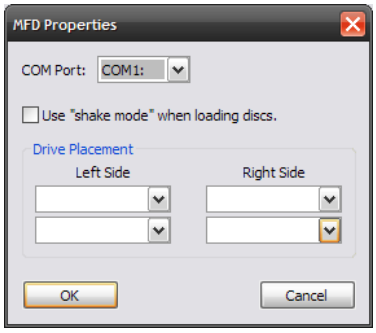


Figure 4.1 – DataGrabber Main User Interface

4.2.1 Button and Screen Operations

4.2.1.1 Group 1: loader type

Here the user will select from the dropdown list, which type of device they will be using, whether it is manual or MFD. If MFD selected, the advanced button becomes active and allows further settings to be changed, such as com port selection, toggle shake mode, and for MFD only the ability to select what side which drives are on.



4.3 MFD Properties

4.2.1.2 Group 2: Select an output format

The option to rip to an ISO image or just to rip the actual files on the disc is available. To change between one or the other is simple, as the user will just click the radio button for the type of output they desire. You have the option to use variables based on unique numbering or volume names as the file path as follows:

- %V – volume name – as shown by Windows
- %N – incremental counter – starting at 001 will increment with each disc ripped.
- %U – Unique ID – guaranteed random unique ID.

Example %V\Disc%N will create in the root folder actual_volume_name\Disc(number)\ data files here.

Textual fixed data may be used alongside variables as shown above and any separators including spaces and underscores.

4.2.1.3 Group 3: Enter disc count

Here the user will enter the amount of discs to rip, or they can set it to 0 to rip indefinitely.

4.2.1.4 Group 4: Folder name and destination

The user will enter the folder name mask using the above variables to ensure each folder name is unique, and will choose the destination they want all the files saved to. To rip to an ISO image, the suffix .iso must be added to destination path e.g "C:\ISO\Test.iso"

4.2.1.5 Group 5: Buttons

The buttons are as follows:

Start batch button

Help Button

4.2.1.6 Group 6: Batch Status Window

The batch status window is designed to give a dynamic preview of the current batch job, listing the attached drives, ability to optionally select each drive or not, the progress of each drive and the ability to skip the disc in that drive.

4.2.17 Group 7: Batch Logging Window

Real-time logging of robotic operation, disc loading, each disc progress and failed Discs. Each log entry is time stamped.

4.2.2 Main Screen Menu Options

Right clicking DataGrabber on the taskbar the menu shown in figure 4.4

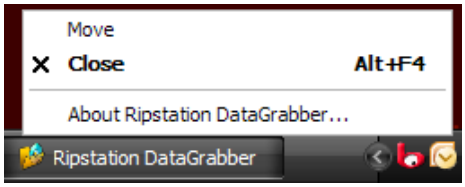


Figure 4.4 – DataGrabber Menu Options

- **About DataGrabber** - Opens the about dialog showing program detail

Optional

DataGrabber may be used with Ripfactorys FileMover application which is available for download.

Filemover allows DataGrabber output files to be easily transferred to NAS, SAN or USB drives as a background service for backup or archive purposes.

5.0 Help and Support

Support terms are detailed in client specific contracts, but at minimum shall include 24 hour support via our online helpdesk. In addition we offer an extended warranty package which includes remote access to your site from our headquarters in Belfast and extended hardware warranty coverage.

Support response is guaranteed within 24 hours.

Contact details:

Ripfactory Ltd
The Old Throne Hospital
244 Whitewell Road
Belfast
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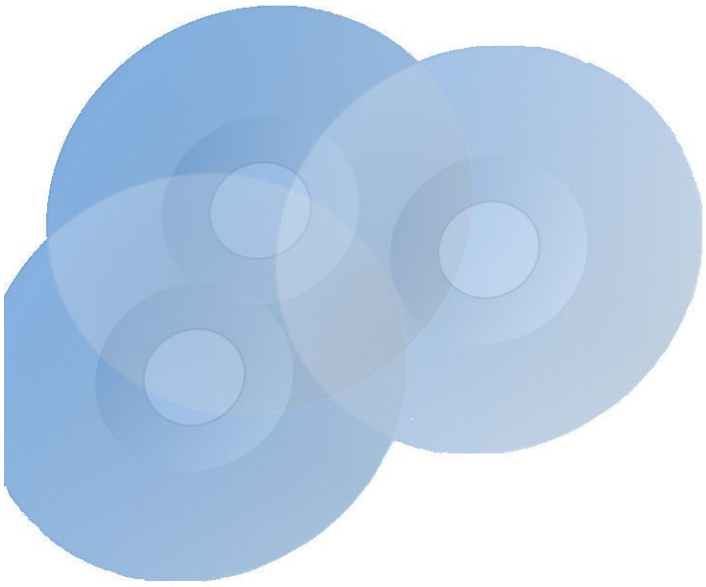
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